

It is not believed that extensions of time or fees for net addition of claims are required, beyond those which may otherwise be provided for in documents accompanying this paper. However, in the event that additional extensions of time are necessary, then such extensions of time are hereby petitioned under 37 C.F.R. § 1.136(a), and any fees required for consideration of this paper (including fees for net addition of claims) are authorized to be charged in two originally-executed copies of an Amendment Transmittal Letter filed herewith.

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please cancel claims 56 and 57 without prejudice and disclaimer of the subject matter thereof.

Please amend claims 1-24 as follows:

1. (Once amended) A method for manufacturing a magnetic tape, comprising
- providing a spool of magnetic tape having a magnetic recording side and a non-recording side opposite the recording side,
- unwinding the spool to pass at least a portion of the magnetic tape through a work area, and
- marking [said] the non-recording side of the portion of the magnetic tape as [said] the tape passes through the work area to form an optically detectable servo pattern thereon.
2. (Once amended) [A] The method according to claim 1, wherein marking [said] the non-recording side of the portion of the magnetic tape, includes forming a plurality of tracks on [said] the non-recording side of the portion of the magnetic tape.

3. (Once amended) [A] The method according to claim 1, wherein marking [said] the non-recording side of the portion of the magnetic tape includes forming a plurality of discrete longitudinally spaced marks.
4. (Once amended) [A] The method according to claim 1, wherein marking [said] the non-recording side of the portion of the magnetic tape, includes forming multiple bands on [said] the non-recording side of the portion of the magnetic tape, each band comprising a plurality of tracks.
5. (Once amended) [A] The method according to claim 1, wherein marking [said] the non-recording side of the portion of magnetic tape includes controlling a characteristic representative of a profile of [said] the servo pattern.
6. (Once amended) [A] The method according to claim 1, wherein marking [said] the non-recording side of the portion of magnetic tape includes exposing [said] the non-recording side of the portion of magnetic tape to a source of radiation for forming [said] the servo pattern.
7. (Once amended) [A] The method according to claim 6, wherein exposing [said] the non-recording side of the portion of magnetic tape to a source of radiation includes directing a laser on to [said] the non-recording side of the portion of magnetic tape.
8. (Once amended) [A] The method according to claim 6, wherein exposing [said] the non-recording side of the portion of magnetic tape to a source of radiation includes pulsing a laser to provide an intermittent source of radiation and thereby forming [said] the servo pattern in discrete sections.
9. (Once amended) [A] The method according to claim 6, wherein exposing [said] the non-recording side of the portion of magnetic tape to a source of radiation includes forming a laser beam into a pattern of spots and directing the pattern on to the magnetic tape.

10. (Once amended) [A] ~~The~~ method according to claim 6, including the further act of disposing a flat surface adjacent the [section] portion of tape passing through the work area to stabilize the tape by reducing transverse motion of the tape.

11. (Once amended) [A] ~~The~~ method according to claim 6, further including controlling a characteristic representative of the intensity of exposure to thereby control the profile of the servo pattern formed on the [section] non-recording side of the portion of magnetic tape and reduce print through.

12. (Once amended) [A] ~~The~~ method according to claim 1, including the act of cleaning the magnetic tape subsequent to marking a servo track on the magnetic tape.

13. (Once amended) [A] ~~The~~ method according to claim 12, wherein cleaning the magnetic tape includes the act of flowing a gas across the surface of the tape to remove debris [rom] from the tape.

14. (Once amended) [A] ~~The~~ method according to claim 12, wherein cleaning the magnetic tape includes the act of contacting the magnetic tape with a cleaning material for removing debris from [therefrom] the tape.

15. (Once amended) [A] ~~The~~ method according to claim 1, including the step of verifying a characteristic of the servo track for controlling quality of the servo track marked on the magnetic tape.

16. (Once amended) [A] ~~The~~ method according to claim 15, wherein verifying a characteristic includes measuring a characteristic representative of size of the servo track.

17. (Once amended) [A] The characteristic according to claim 15, wherein verifying a characteristic includes measuring a characteristic representative of location of the servo track.

18. (Once amended) [A] The method according to claim 1, wherein marking [said] the non-recording side of the portion of magnetic tape includes applying an embossing roller to the tape to form the servo pattern thereon.

19. (Once amended) [A] The method according to claim 1, wherein marking [said] the non-recording side of the portion of magnetic tape includes printing the servo pattern on the tape.

20. (Once amended) [A] The method according to claim 1, wherein marking [said] the non-recording side of the portion of magnetic tape includes projecting an ink jet onto the tape for printing the servo pattern thereon.

21. (Once amended) [A] The method according to claim 1, wherein marking [said] the non-recording side of the portion of magnetic tape includes metallizing the tape to form the servo pattern thereon.

22. (Once amended) [A] The method according to claim 1, that includes employing a photographic process to develop on the non-recording side of the portion of magnetic tape an image representative of the servo track pattern.

23. (Once amended) [A] The method according to claim 1, wherein marking the tape includes applying a fluorescent material to the non-recording side of the magnetic tape.

24. (Once amended) [A] The method according to claim 1, including the further act of burnishing the non-recording side of the magnetic tape.